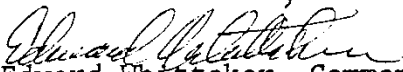


Volume III- Case Incident File
File 14A
Metro-Dade Crime Lab Report
12/09/83

MEMORANDUM

107.07-17A

TO Detective Hoffman
Hollywood Police Department

FROM 
Edward Whittaker, Commander
Crime Laboratory Bureau
Metro-Dade Police Department

DATE December 9, 1983

SUBJECT Case #418664-D

Our best efforts to date have not produced a positive identification of the tool-marks found on the bone as having been made by the submitted machete. Bob Hart has worked the evidence with great vigor but all the physical factors combined appear to be leading to no positive identification.

The white fragments, found by the meticulous examination of the BCME office during the cleanup of the skull, are now in process of chemical examination with the purpose being to try to identify the basic type of material which the fragments are made of, perhaps ceramic, Vitreous or paint material.

The fragments are quite brittle. The larger one broke during normal handling, but with no important consequence.

Please find six, self-explanatory, enclosed macrophotographs which I took of the fragments. We may provide you with future scanning electron micrographs.

As you will note, the smooth white surface has randomly scattered, faint, light-blue inclusions and a black somewhat porous, base layer.

The fracture patterns of any one of the seven edges of the fragments would be sufficient to permit an absolute identification to the surface from which it was broken.

Although an automobile is not likely to have such material, the questioned vehicle should be searched with extreme care for such material and, if found, for any defect or break in any surface. If such a break is found, the whole object should be very carefully packaged and submitted to us for chemical and microscope studies and edge comparisons.

EW/ds
Enclosures:

cc: Ronald Wright, M.D.
Broward County Medical Examiner

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